ALABAMA BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MINUTES

OF THE

THIRTY-FIFTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

HARMONY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

HELD AT

MT. ZION CHURCH

GEORGIA

September 29, 30, and October 1

1899

OFFICERS

Moderator, Rev. T. W. GRIFFITH, Buchanan, Ga.
Clerk, V. M. THACKERSON, Tecumseh, Ala.

The next session to be held at Buchanan, Haralson County, Ga.
Friday before the first Sabbath in October
1900

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AMERICAN BAPTIST PUBLICATION SOCIETY

Harmony Baptist Association Minutes.

MT. ZION BAPTIST CHURCH, HARALSON COUNTY, GA.
September 29th, 1899.

The Harmony Baptist Association convened with this church today at 11 a. m. The introductory sermon was preached by Rev. J. S. Edwards. Text: Isaiah, 6th chapter, latter clause of 8th verse, "Here am I, send me."

Afternoon Session.

The Moderator being absent, the Association was called to order by V. M. Thackerson, the Clerk. On motion, F. Lindsey was elected Moderator pro tem. Engaged in singing and prayer, led by T. W. Griffith.

Letters read by T. W. Griffith, Bro. Hightower and G. W. Roberts.

NAMES OF DELEGATES ENROLLED (Absentees Noted Thus *.)

FIRST DISTRICT.

Ai:—J. A. J. Alewine, W. E. Garner, W. A. White, Willie Prichard.

Beulah:—N. R. Williamson, J. W. Kilgore, G. W. Gladden.

Concord:—M. W. Dodd, W. H. Gentry, J. P. Day.

Edwardsville:—T. J. Burton, J. B. Merrill, A. A. Hurst, W. B. Merrill, J. C. Midgett, L. P. Hurst.

Harmony Grove:—P. T. Pritchard, J. W. Baber.

Fruithurst, 1st:—J. A. Thompson*, H. T. Williamson, W. H. Adair.

Bethsaida:—J. M. Walker, P. J. Coleman*, J. W. Walker.

Hopewell:—D. M. Kaylor, W. W. Falkness, J. T. Hendley*.

Pine Grove:—J. C. Garner, T. P. Scott, J. D. Wheeler, E. J. Parris*, J. W. Scott.

Shoal Creek:—B. A. Cheatwood, F.E.Hubbard, J.W.Johnson.

Pilgrim's Rest:—W. Harper, C.K.Harper*, M.C. Hightower*.

SECOND DISTRICT.

Bethany:—F. Lindsey, W. J. James, R. J. McBride, J. A. Stephenson*.

Buchanan:—T. W. Griffith, J. S. Edwards, W. O. Bullard*, C. J. Levens, G. D. Griffith.

Mt. Zion :—J. C. Jackson*, L. P. Allen, E. A. Smith.

Providence :—A. Willingham, J. W. Stripling, J. J. Taylor*, M. Q. Liner, R. R. Ray.

Poplar Springs :—H. R. Hanes, M.Lamunyon, W. J. Fincher, A. C. Waldrop, T. E. Johnson.

Pleasant Hill :—C. I. Allen, D. W. Allen, E. J. Little.

Tallapoosa, 1st :—R. Bentley*, F. S. Dunklee*, W.H. Moody*, T. A. Higdon, J. H. Davis.

THIRD DISTRICT.

Camp Creek :—G. W. Roberts, T. R. Roberts, R. H. Roberts, R. S. Zimmerman.

Cherry Grove :—V.M.Thackerson, S.J.Waits*, J.J.McDowell*.

Harmony :—H. J. Goswick*, H. Fenquay*, W. J. Raburn*, J. W. Wood.

Salem :—O. A. Alden, P. C. Morris, B. A. Garman*.

Shiloh :—J. T. Garner, W. J. Cox*, J. J. Hackney, B. B. Calloway*.

Pine Bower :—W.T.Thompson, J. M. Pittman, J. N.Torrence.

Election of Officers:—Proceeded by ballot to elect Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer. By request, A. A. Pittman and T. J. Burton acted as tellers, who reported V. M. Thackerson elected Clerk and Treasurer; no one elected Moderator. On motion, suspended the regular order of business and elected by acclamation Rev. T. W. Griffith as Moderator.

The committee appointed at last session on Order of Business made their report; report adopted, and became the directory for the remainder of this session.

Invited visiting brethren of our order to seats; received Revs. N. B. O'Kelly, T. C. Buchanan and J. Taliaferro.

Called for Correspondents; received from Polk County Association, A. A. Pittman.

Appointed committees to report this session: On Preaching —W. J. James, J. A. J. Alewine, W. J. Fincher and the delegates from Mt. Zion church. On motion, granted the Moderator until tomorrow to appoint other committees.

Fixed hours of meeting at 9 o'clock a. m. and 1 p. m; hours of adjournment at 11 a. m. and at will.

Suspended order of business, and appointed T. A. Higdon, J. S. Edwards and T. J. Burton a special committee on Missions.

Adjourned to 9 a. m. tomorrow.

Benediction by Rev. T. A. Higdon.

Friday Night.

Preaching at Mt. Zion church by Rev. A. A. Pittman of Polk County Association. At Tallapoosa church by Rev. N. B. O'Kelly of Stone Mountain Association.

SATURDAY'S SESSION.

The Association met at 9 a. m; engaged in singing and prayer, led by Rev. M. V. Mize.

Renewed call for correspondents; received from Bethlehem Association, Rev. M. V. Mize.

Appointed the following committees, to report this session :—

On Correspondents—A. Willingham, G. W. Roberts, J. M. Walker, J. C. Garner, J. T. Garner.

On Finance—W. B. Merrill, B. A. Cheatwood, E. A. Smith, F. Lindsey.

On Requests—A. A. Hurst, H. R. Hanes, R. J. McBride, C. I. Allen, C. J. Levens.

On motion referred appointing correspondents until close of session.

On motion appointed T. A. Higdon, T. J. Burton, and F. Lindsey a committee to nominate an Executive Board.

Elected Rev. F. Lindsey to preach introductory sermon at the next session; Alternate, O. A. Alden.

Appointed the next session of this body to meet with Buchanan church, Haralson county, Ga., Friday before the first Sunday in October, 1900, at 11 o'clock a. m.

On motion, appointed special committees on Temperance and Sunday Schools :—

On Temperance—W. J. James, L. P. Allen, O. A. Allen.

On Sunday Schools—R. E. Loveless, W. R. Hightower, J. N. Torrence.

Granted the following churches letters of dismission from this body :—Harmony Grove, Shoal Creek, Cherry Grove, Edwardsville, Bethsaida, Ai, Pilgrim's Rest, Pine Grove, Hopewell, Salem, Concord, Camp Creek, Shiloh, Beulah, Fruithurst, Pine Bower, Harmony; and instructed the delegates from each church to write their letters of dismission, and sign Moderator and Clerk's names.

On motion, appointed T. J. Burton, L. P. Allen, W.O. Bullard, T. A. Higdon and J. A. J. Alewine a committee on Deceased Ministers.

Heard and adopted reports of committees. The committee appointed to nominate an Executive Board nominated G. D.

Griffith, R. G. Bentley, W. J. James, L. P. Allen, M. Q. Liner.

Adjourned to 1 p. m.

Preaching at 11 o'clock a. m. by Rev. T. W. Griffith.

Evening Session.

Met according to adjournment; engaged in singing and prayer, led by Rev. J. C. Midgett.

Letter from Harmony church read and delegates' names enrolled.

Report on Sunday Schools on motion was made special order for 9 30 o'clock a. m. tomorrow.

Report on missions discussed by Brethren James, Midgett, Higdon, Pittman and Willingham.

Report on Temperance discussed by Brethren Higdon and Midgett.

Granted leave of absence to T. J. Burton, A. A. Hurst and W. B. Merrill.

Adjourned to 9 o'clock a. m. tomorrow.

Saturday Night.

Preaching at the church by Rev. J. C. Garner; at Tallapoosa by Rev. J. C. Midgett.

SUNDAY'S SESSION.

Met according to adjournment; engaged in singing and prayer, led by Rev. F. Lindsey.

Report on Sunday Schools taken up, and after being discussed by Loveless, James and Midgett, adopted.

Appointed standing committees to report at next session :—

On Foreign Missions—J. S. Edwards, J. H. Davis, C. I. Allen, A. C. Waldrop, J. W. Stripling.

On Home Missions—T. A. Higdon, G. D. Griffith, M. Lamunyon, D. W. Allen, F. Lindsey.

On State Missions—C. J. Levens, W. H. Moody, J. J. Taylor, H. R. Hanes, E. A. Smith.

On Sunday Schools—R. E. Loveless, F. S. Dunklee, J. Minshew, E. J. Little, T. Johnson.

On Literature—G. D. Griffith, M. Q. Liner, R. G. Bentley, L. P. Allen, W. J. James.

On Reading Bible—J. C. Jackson, W. J. Fincher, R. J. McBride, R. R. Ray, T. A. Higdon.

On Temperance—F. Lindsey, L. P. Allen, W. J. James, R. E. Loveless, G. W. Gentry.

On Deceased Ministers—A. Willingham, W. O. Bullard, J. C. Jackson, J. W. Stripling, J. S. Edwards.

Appointed Correspondents to Sister Associations as follows:—

Boiling Spring—J. C. Garner, P. T. Pritchard.

Polk County—V. M. Thackerson, T. W. Griffith, W. T. Thompson, J. N. Torrance, W. J. James, F. Lindsey.

Bethlehem—N. R. Williamson, J. T. Garner, J. M. Pittman, F. Lindsey.

Arbacoochee—J. A. J. Alewine, W. Harper, J. M. Walker, F. E. Hubbard, B. A. Cheatwood.

Tallapoosa—W. J. James, W. J. Fincher, A. Willingham.

Carrollton—A. Willingham, J. C. Garner.

To the Georgia State Baptist Convention—T. W. Griffith, J. S. Edwards.

To the Alabama State Baptist Convention—T. J. Burton, J. C. Midgett.

To the Southern Baptist Convention—T. W. Griffith.

MOTIONS.

Dispensed with calling roll and reading minutes.

Directed Clerk to have 800 copies of Minutes printed and distributed among the churches, according to money paid by each for Minutes, and retain balance for his services.

RESOLUTIONS.

Resolved, That we heartily endorse and commend the work of the Georgia Baptist Orphans' Home, of Atlanta, and earnestly request and urge all our churches to contribute to its support. It is doing a noble work for God and the orphans of our state. We therefore desire that each church in our bounds make a liberal donation to it before the close of the present year. (Offered by L. P. Allen.)

THANKS.

Be it resolved, That our sincere thanks are due to God for His care and protection over us; and that the same be tendered to the members of this church and community generally for their kind hospitality extended to the delegates and friends during this session. (Offered by T. A. Higdon.)

Adjourned to time and place appointed.

Thus closed a very harmonious and, we trust, profitable session.

Farewell, brethren, we may meet no more
Till time shall pass away:
Then live to meet on Canaan's shore—
There we'll enjoy Eternal Day.

T. W. GRIFFITH, Moderator.

V. M. THACKERSON, Clerk.

DEVOTIONAL EXERCISES ON SABBATH.

At 11 a. m. Rev. J. C. Midgett preached the annual Missionary Sermon, (Text: Romans, 10th chapter, 14th and first clause of 15th verse,) to a large and attentive congregation, and we pray that God will abundantly bless the word preached today; after which a collection was taken for Orphans' Home and Indigent Ministers, amounting to $11.13.

Reports of Committees.

MISSIONS.

We, your Committee on Missions, report: That there is very little missionary spirit manifested in our Association. But while we are behind in this great work, there is a great move among our people in other parts in Georgia and Alabama. Brethren, we ought to wake up on this line. T. A. HIGDON, Chairman.

TEMPERANCE.

We see a great need for a more effectual work on the Temperance question in our bounds. Our observation teaches us that some of our Baptist brethren actually engage in the manufacture and sale of whiskey, brandy, etc., and that our preachers to a very great extent are silent on the subject and thereby sanction the vile practice of making and drinking intoxicating liquors. Brethren, we must show which side of this great question we occupy. W. J. JAMES, Chairman.

SABBATH SCHOOLS.

We, your Committee on Sunday Schools, beg leave to report: While we rejoice that a number of our churches are interested in this great work, we are pained to see the great neglect of the work among so many of our people. We earnestly recommend that each church not only have its own Sunday School, but that we all encourage and work for the of establishing schools in every community where there are none, so that the true doctrines of the Scriptures may be taught to the children and the people. We consider this one of the greatest duties of the church.

R. E. LOVELESS, Chairman.

DECEASED MINISTERS.

Whereas, It has pleased our All-wise God to remove from his earthly labors our beloved brother, Rev. Thomas J. Garner, since our last session:

Bro. Garner was about eighty years of age at the time of his death. He was ordained to the ministry about the year 1854 at Mt. Paren church, now Cherry Grove church, and he labored faithfully in the cause of the Master in this section continually as long as his health permitted, until a few years before his death. We learn that he preached the Introductory Sermon at the organization of this Association, and was several times its Moderaior. He was one of the pioneers of the Baptist cause in this section. We feel that his work still survives him, and in his death this As-

sociation and the Baptist cause in this section has lost one of its strong pillars and supports.

Resolved, That while we humbly bow to the will of Him who doeth all things well, we regret to record the death of this venerable brother, and we feel that our loss is his eternal gain and that he is enjoying the rewards of his labors. We tender to his family our sympathy and prayers in their bereavement, and bid them follow his precepts and teachings, until we shall meet him soon in the happy beyond. T. J. BURTON, Chairman.

FINANCE.

Received for Minutes	$23.75
Received for Indigent Ministers	12.25
Received for Foreign Missions	10.00
Received for Home Missions	1.30
Received for Orphans' Home	5.25
Collection Sunday	11.13
Total cash	$63.68
Paid Treasurer	$63.68
Tallapoosa Vouchers from State Board :—	
Foreign Missions	$ 2.50
Home Missions	2.50
B. Y. P. U.	14.00
State Missions	10.34
Indigent Ministers	3.51
Total	$32.85
Grand total	$96.53

W. B. MERRILL, Chairman.

TREASURER'S ACCOUNT.

Oct. '98, Received from Finance Committee	$ 77.19
Collected during session	29.13
Total	$106.32
Oct. '98, Paid Foreign Missions	$ 29.10
Paid Orphans' Home	10.10
Paid F. Lindsey	23.33
Paid Mrs. Taliaferro	1.65
Paid T. J. Garner	18.09
Paid for printing and distributing Minutes	15.00
Paid Clerk's service	9.05
Total	$106.32

V. M. THACKERSON, Treasurer.

CORRESPONDING LETTER.

We, your Committee on Correspondence, make the following report: That the spirit of correspondence has been kept up with us, and we still desire to keep it up. Therefore, we cordially invite our brethren who have withdrawn out of our body to correspond with us. A. WILLINGHAM, Chairman.

Statistics of Harmony Baptist Association, 1899.

CHURCHES.	COUNTIES.	PASTORS.	ADDRESS.	CLERKS.	ADDRESS.	Sab. of Meeting.	Ord. Ministers.	Licentiates.	Baptized	Rec'd by letter.	Restored.	Dis. by letter.	Excluded.	Dead.	Present Membership
Ai	Cleburne, Ala	J. C. Garner	Ai, Ala	E. E. Myers, Jr.	Ai, Ala	3	0	2	1	12	0	4	0	0	66
Beulah	Cleburne, Ala	N. R. Williamson	Rosewood, Ala	J. C. Williamson	Rosewood, Ala	1	1	1	3	0	0	3	0	0	50
Bethsaida	Cleburne, Ala	W. J. Campbell	Belltown, Ala	W. P. Walker	Edwardsville, Ala	2	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	44
Bethany	Haralson, Ga	P. W. M. Brown	Tryon Factory, Ga	R. H. Pittman	Tallapoosa, Ga	1	1	0	1	1	0	3	2	0	80
Buchanan	Haralson, Ga	P. W. Griffith	Buchanan, Ga	G. D. Griffith	Buchanan, Ga	4	2	2	2	7	1	11	3	0	115
Cherry Grove	Cleburne, Ala	A. A. Pittman	Walthall, Ga	V. M. Thackerson	Tecumseh, Ala	2	0	0	1	1	0	7	2	0	64
Camp Creek	Cleburne, Ala	T. A. Higdon	Tallapoosa, Ga	G. W. Roberts	Oak Level, Ala	4	0	0	6	3	0	4	0	0	140
Concord	Cleburne, Ala	B. F. Butler		W. H. Gentry		2	0	0	3	5	0	2	0	1	50
Edwardsville	Cleburne, Ala	H. D. Harris	Piedmont, Ala	H. D. Merrill	Edwardsville, Ala	4	2	0	22	12	0	1	0	1	88
Fruithurst	Cleburne, Ala	W. J. Campbell	Belltown, Ala	R. D. Williamson	Fruithurst, Ala	2	0	1	1	1	0	6	0	0	17
Harmony Grove	Cleburne, Ala	P. T. Pritchard	Edwardsville, Ala			0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	30
Harmony	Polk, Ga	A. Pope	Rock Run, Ala	J. W. Wood	Esom Hill, Ga	1	1	0	2	2	0	8	2	1	39
Hopewell	Cleburne, Ala	A. Willingham	Tallapoosa, Ga	C. M. Williamson	Hopewell, Ala	3	1	2	6	0	0	0	0	1	152
Mt. Zion	Haralson, Ga	F. Lindsey	Tallapoosa, Ga	L. P. Allen	Tallapoosa, Ga	3	1	1	4	5	0	1	0	1	78
Pine Grove	Cleburne, Ala					4	0	0	3	6	0	0	1	0	116
Pilgrim's Rest	Cleburne, Ala	N. R. Williamson	Rosewood, Ala	J. Stephenson	Edwardsville, Ala	3	0	0	4	2	0	3	1	0	42
Poplar Springs	Haralson, Ga	M. V. Mize	Poplar Spring, Ga	C. W. Newman	Poplar Spring, Ga	3	0	0	4	5	1	3	3	2	133
Pine Bower	Polk, Ga	A. A. Pittman	Walthall, Ga	W. T. Thompson	Berry's, Ga	4	1	0	0	2	1	1	3	0	32
Pleasant Hill	Haralson, Ga	A. Willingham	Tallapoosa, Ga	E. J. Tittle	Newsville, Ga	2	0	1	2	0	0	2	1	1	41
Providence	Haralson, Ga	A. Willingham	Tallapoosa, Ga	J. W. Stripling	Tallapoosa, Ga	0	1	1	1	1	0	7	4	1	103
Shiloh	Polk, Ga	G. B. Boman	Lake Creek, Ga	J. T. Garner	Esom Hill, Ga	2	0	0	9	7	5	7	5	4	152
Salem	Cherokee, Ala	J. R. Trotter	Rock Run, Ala	P. J. Garmon	Bluffton, Ala	4	0	0	1	7	0	0	1	0	47
Shoal Creek	Cleburne, Ala	W. J. Newborn	Edwardsville, Ala	W. E. Holly	Shoal Creek, Ga	4	1	0	17	5	0	2	0	0	106
Tallapoosa 1st	Haralson, Ga			F. S. Dunklee	Tallapoosa, Ga	0	0	0	17	10	1	20	5	1	152
Total,							13	12	110	95	9	95	33	15	1937

Statistics of Harmony Baptist Association, 1899.

CHURCHES.	Sunday School.	Pupils	Sunday School. Superintendent's Name and P O. Address.	Indg't Ministers.	For Missions.	For Minutes	Church Property	Value of
Ai	1	76	W. A. White, Ai, Ala.			.85	100 00	
Beulah	1		J. M. Kilgore, Muscadine, Ala			.80		
Bethsaida						.50		
Bethany				7.00		1.50		
Buchanan	1		A.C. Auchmuty, Buchanan, Ga		10 00	1.50		
Cherry Grove						.75	150.00	
Camp Creek	1	55	R. H. Roberts, Oak Level, Ala.			1 35	300.00	
Concord						1.00		
Edwardsville	1	86	W.B.Merrill, Edw'dsville, Ala.			1 00		
Fruithurst 1st						.50		
Harmony Grove						.50		
Harmony	1					.50		
Hopewell						1.75		
Mt. Zion			Orphans' Home $5.25	5.25		1 50		
Pine Grove						1.00		
Pilgrim's Rest						.50		
Poplar Springs						1.50		
Pine Bower						.50		
Pleasant Hill						.60		
Providence						1.50		
Salem						1.00		
Shiloh	1	52	B. B. Callaway, Esom Hill, Ga.			1 00	1000.00	
Shoal Creek						1.05		
Tallapoosa 1st	1		T. S. Dunklee, Tallapoosa, Ga.		1.30	1.10	2500.00	
Total,	8	269		12 25	11.30	23 75	4050 00	

Ordained Ministers.

Alden, O. A..... Borden Springs, Ala.
Cheatwood, B. A.....Edwardsville, Ala.
Edwards, J. S.....Buchanan, Ga.
Garner, J. C.....Bell's Mill, Ala.
Butler, B. F..... Hopewell, Ala.
Griffith, T. W.....Buchanan, Ga.
Goswick, H. J..... Esom Hill, Ga.
Garrett, W. H..... Edwardsville, Ala.
Higdon, T. A..... Tallapoosa, Ga.
Jackson, J. C.....Tallapoosa, Ga.
Lindsey, F..... Tallapoosa, Ga.
Midgett, J. C..... Edwardsville, Ala.
Newborn, J. W..... Edwardsville, Ala.
Pritchard, P. T.....Edwardsville, Ala.
Willingham, A.....Tallapoosa, Ga.
Walker, J. D..... Bell's Mill, Ala.
Williamson, N. R.....Rosewood, Ala.

Licentiates.

Anderson, J. P..... Hopewell, Ala.
Bentley, R..... Fruithurst, Ala.
Cunningham, J. W.....Hopewell, Ala.
Hart, J.....Newsville, Ga.
Banister, J.....Edwardsville, Ala.
Hubbard, F. E.....Shoal Creek, Ala.
Kilgore, J. M..... Newsville, Ga.
Stripling, J. W..... Tallapoosa, Ga.
Thompson, J. A.....Fruithurst, Ala.
Walker, J. W..... Edwardsville, Ala.
Garner, W. E.....Ai, Ala.
White, W. A..... Ai, Ala.

BUSINESS DIRECTORY.

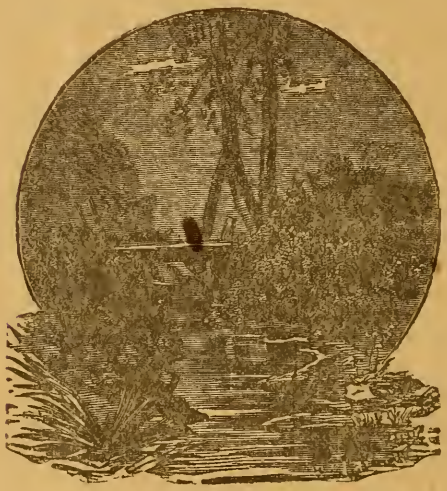
ORGANIC.

1. Call Association to order.
2. Introductory Sermon.
3. Read letters and enroll delegates.
4. Elect Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer.

NEW ORGANIZATION.

5. Receive and dispose of Petitionary Letters.
6. Invite visiting brethren of our Order to seats.
7. Receive and welcome Correspondents.
8. Appoint Committees for the Session:—
   - On Preaching and Devotional Services.
   - On Requests.
   - On Finances.
   - On Correspondence.
9. Hear and dispose of Committee Reports.
10. Appoint Correspondents.
11. Elect an Executive Board.
12. Elect person to preach next Introductory Sermon.
13. Appoint time and place for holding next session.
14. Miscellaneous matters.
15. Arrange for printing and distributing Minutes.
16. Call roll and note absentees.
17. Appoint Standing Committees to report at next session:—
    - On Missions,—Foreign, Home and State.
    - On Sunday Schools.
    - On Literature.
    - On Reading Bible.
    - On Temperance.
    - On Deceased Ministers.
18. Read and adopt Minutes.
19. Adjourn.

The churches in Alabama that have withdrawn to organize a new Association hereby tender to our mother Association a cordial christian invitation to visit us and open correspondence with us, and in withdrawing, we feel it is our duty that we may do more and greater work for the cause of the Master. We bid you adieu in christian love.



TO THE

Sunday School

IN NEED OF A Library

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